

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAPE T 00310 262025 Z

63

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 IO-12 RSR-01 /123 W
----- 041617

R 261500 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3436

INFO AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY MASERU

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PINS SF

SUBJ: VORSTER MAKES HARD- LINE RESPONSE TO UP CRITICISM

1. IN PARLIAMENT APRIL 25 UNITED PARTY ACCUSED PRIME MINISTER VORSTER OF HAVING FAILED TO GIVE DIRECTION TO SOUTH AFRICA AND HAVING DEPARTED FROM POLICIES OF HIS PREDECESSOR, DR. VERWOERD. IN RESPONSE, VORSTER SAID HIS GOVERNMENT HAD NOT AND WOULD NOT DEVIATE FROM SEPARATE DEVELOPMENT. IT WAS ENGAGED, HE DECLARED, IN TASK OF TAKING POLICIES OF VERWOERD TO THEIR LOGICAL CONCLUSION.

2. VORSTER SAID SAG FULLY AWARE OF PROBLEMS IN CONNECTION WITH " URBAN BANTU" AND WOULD CONTINUE TO ENDEAVOR TO " BRING RELIEF WHERE RELIEF WAS JUSTIFIED." FOR " MANY YEARS TO COME" HOMELANDS WOULD BE UNABLE PROVIDE ENOUGH WORK FOR ALL THEIR " CITIZENS," AND THUS AFRICANS WOULD CONTINUE BE PRESENT IN WHITE AREAS. HOWEVER, VORSTER STRESSED THAT HE WOULD OPPOSE ANY MOVE TO WEAKEN OR SEVER TIES BETWEEN
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PAGE 02 CAPE T 00310 262025 Z

URBAN AFRICANS AND THEIR HOMELANDS-- TIES WHICH THEIR LEADERS AND REPRESENTATIVES HAD TOLD HIM THEY WANTED MAINTAINED. THIS UNDERLIES SAG'S POLICY THAT AFRICANS' POLITICAL RIGHTS ARE AND WILL BE CONFINED TO HOMELANDS.

3. VORSTER WAS UNCOMPROMISING ON SUBJECT OF FURTHER LAND FOR HOME TO BE MICROFILMED. HE SAID THAT ORSTOM WAS DOING COMPUTER STUDY OF OVERALL CLIMATIC CONDITIONS IN SAHELIAN ZONE. THIS WILL NOT BE READY FOR SIX MONTHS, BUT A PRELIMINARY REPORT HAD BEEN COMPLETED WHICH HE GAVE SPENCER ON CONFIDENTIAL BASIS. PRIMARY CONCLUSION OF REPORT IS THAT THERE IS NO REPEAT NO REAL EVIDENCE OF SERIOUS INCREASE IN DESERTIFICATION. ON GENERAL SUBJECT OF RESEARCH, AUDIBERT SAID THAT RECENT REVIEW OF ALL FRENCH RESEARCH ACTIVITIES IN AFRICA SHOWED THAT 50 PER CENT CONCENTRATED IN TROPICAL, COASTAL AREAS, AND ONLY 6 PER CENT IN SAHELIAN AREA. IT HAD BEEN DECIDED THAT FUTURE RESEARCH FUNDING SHOULD BE DESIGNED TO TRY TO BALANCE THIS DISEQUILIBRIUM.

5. SPENCER INDICATED AID INTEREST IN DONOR MEETING TO DISCUSS COORDINATING PLANNING FOR MEDIUM AND LONG- RANGE PROGRAMS IN SAHELIAN ZONE. AUDIBERT RESPONDED VERY AFFIRMATIVELY TO THIS IDEA AND INDICATED PARTICULAR INTEREST IN POSSIBILITY OF ORSTOM WORKING WITH AID ON RESEARCH USING ERTS DATA. HE SAID ORSTOM PEOPLE WERE VERY INTERESTED IN NEW APPROACHES OPENED UP BY ABILITY TO OBTAIN WEEKLY READINGS ON PROGRESS OF VEGETATION FROM ERTS SATELLITE. HE WOULD LIKE TO DISCUSS THIS FURTHER WITH US SOON.

6. SEPTEL FOLLOWS OTHER TOPICS DISCUSSED. DECONTROL APRIL 30, 1974
IRWIN

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*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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